# The Centre Democrat.

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# BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1902.

### THANKSGIVING.

Thanksgiving Day ! Your voices raise To God on high in hymns of praise. The fruitful yield. Of vine and field

Has brightened all our earthly ways. Give thanks to God who rules on high For welcome rain and sunny sky.

For peace and love Praise God above, And all His mercies glorify ! Thanksgiving Day ! Praise God and sing Till every vale and hill shall shall ring. Thanksgiving Day ! From work apart Let mankind come. From field and mart

Let anthaims rise To pierce the skies To prove the thanks within each heart.

Give thanks to God for mercles shown, And kneel today before His throne. For peace and joy

Without alloy The loving Father's kingship own. Thanksgiving Day ! Let every voice Show how our grateful hearts rejoice. Thanksgiving Day ! Forget not those Who know naught save life's bitter woes,

Be not delayed-Give them the aid That brother unto brother owes. Lift up the brother bowed by care. Divide your blessings everywhere :

The highest scan For fallen man Who needs the help that you may share. Thanksgiving Day! Give from your store To aid the hungry, sick and poor. Thanksgiving Day! From distant wide Let loved ones come to sit beside

The festal board Whose joys afford Long hours of love what'er betide. Give thanks to God for earthly ties : For love that beams in shining eyes.

Sing songs of praise Until your lays Are echoed back from vaulted skies.

Then at God's throne kneel down and pay Your homage this Thanksgiving Day ! -Will M. Maupin.

### FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs-Selected and Original.

BELATED ANSWERS. She said: "The play seemed tiresome," And paused for a reply. I said: "No time hangs heavy If you are only by." That is, I said it later ; I couldn't think of it then. I was ready for her another time. But she never said it again.

"The good, the true, the beautiful." She said, "I dearly prize," "And they are always with you." I said with beaming eyes. That is, I should have said it If I hadn't been too slow, As it was, I only thought it out An hour or two ago.

Samuel Everhart, farmer, College town- ten minutes another. I saw my father be- the first one to approach him after he was ship; accepted Emanuel Musser, gentleman, Haines township : accepted. J. B. Rishel, merchant, Gregg township;

challenged by defendant. J. B. Mayes, marble cutter, College township; challenged by commonwealth. D. W. Clark, blacksmith, Liberty town-

ship; challenged for cause. Fred Kemmerer, tarmer, Benner town-

ship ; challenged by commonwealth. Jonathan E. Miller, miller, Bellefonte ;

challenged by commonwealth. Augustus Witherite, farmer, Union

township ; accepted. George. F. Musser, agent, Bellefonte ;

excused by the Court. J. H. Weaves, farmer, Walker township; challenged by defendant. W. C. Smeltzer, teacher, Spring town-

ship ; accepted. J. P. Sebring, farmer, Haltmoon Twp. ;

challenged by commonwealth. Joseph Grossman, farmer, Potter town-

ship; challenged by defendant. Jacob Heverly, laborer, Rush township; challenged by the defendant.

Adam Ertle, farmer, Gregg township ;

challenged by the common wealth. Charles Mensch, printer, Bellefonte

challenged by commonwealth. Robert Kreamer, laborer, Milesburg challenged by defendant.

Samuel Shoop, laborer, Liberty town-ship; challenged by commonwealth. Samuel Sikes, mine boss, Philipsburg ;

excused by the Court. Michael Heaton, farmer, Boggs town-

ship ; challenged by common wealth. Thomas Boal, farmer. Patton township ;

challenged by common wealth. H. V. Hile, plasterer, Spring township ; challenged by defendant.

Alfred Witherite, farmer, Boggs township ; challenged by commonwealth. Edward Williams, teacher, Harris town-

ship ; challenged by defendant. At this point the panel was exhausted and the sheriff directed to call talesman.

V. J. Baurer, merchant, Bellefonte ; accepted E. M. Boone, farmer, Haines township

L. Al. Doole, farmer, Haines township; challenged by defendant. J. W. Musser, merchant, Millheim, challenged by defendant. George Garbrick, gentleman, Bellefonte; accepted.

### JURY AS SELECTED.

Budd Thompson, farmer..... Huston Twp William C. Martin, farmer.....Spring Howard Goss, farmer.....Ferguson Nathan Dale, agent.....Spring A. C. Williams, farmer..... Taylor James Ross, Jr., tarmer ..... Harris Samuel Everhart, farmer ..... College Emanuel Musser, gentleman. . Harris Augustus Witherite, farmer... Union W. C. Smeltzer, teacher.....Spring V. J. Bauer, merchant......Bellefonte George Garbrick, gentleman ...

Tipstaves Thomas McCafferty and Simcon Haupt were sworn to take charge of con Haupt were sworn to take charge of the jury at 11:20 o'clock and court ad-journed until 1:30 p. m. Tuesday after-near what was going on upstairs for I had left the house. Did not see the quarrel between the men but heard the shots fired.

tween the two shots. I told him to go home and not shoot Robert and he said he hurt. would kill him. He had his gun with him. Was at home July 21st when tragedy oc-curred. Saw Miller standing in front of He went home from there. Never saw my husband from the time he left the house

Robert Roach's house. until he was shot. Father did not say in DE. F. B. READ sworn : Live at Osceola and knew Robert Roach in his life and my presence that he would shoot Robert if was called about six o'clock in the evening it took him six weeks to do it.

It took him six weeks to do it. When Bob went up stairs to get his re-volver I closed the door but be broke it open and came down, after which he start-ed to the woods. I cannot say that father had been drinking. I took hold of father up in the hall, and told my husband to go home. When he come down my husband was standing at the comer of the sharty of July 21st and found him lying on the roadside near his house. He was struck in hip bone-the ball passing through his body and coming out near the naval line. This wound was the cause of his death. The ball passed through the hip bone and through the highly organized portion of was standing at the corner of the shanty the large bowel. where the second tussel took place. Court adjourned at 5: 12 till Wednesday

ALICE MILLER, sworn. I live at Edenmorning at 8: 30. dale. Am a niece of David Miller and make my home with him. Mr. Miller came home on the morning of the tragedy, and was very drunk-staggering up the the boardwalk. When Mrs. Miller and I came home trom Osceola where we had gone Mr. Miller was not at home, but when he came home in the evening a quarrel started and Mrs. Wm Miller, the defendant's son's wife told Roach to go up stairs. He went and the fight took He went and the fight took place. After Bob had his revolver he said if the old man come too close to him he would shout back. would shoot and I did shoot.'

Mus. MINNIE MILLER sworn-Live at rested and the defense opened. E. R. Osceola. Am married to a son of the defeudant. Was at Miller's nouse when the tragedy occurred. Soon after her arrival me she went up stairs and Mr. Miller followed her and began to beat her. She

beg of Miller to go home and let her hus-band alone as she had trouble enough to which he replied, "G-d-you, I ll kill him before night." he was crazy. It couldn't have been more than ten minutes before the shooting took

place. I saw them tusseling in the hall. Bob bit him in the face and he (Miller) fell down. Roach had his coat on in the know Miller was drunk because he staggered when he came home in the morning, and I saw him fall on the board walk in the evening. I did not see him drink but I smelled it on him. I did not hear any disturbance before Roach came up stairs.

dale on day of tragedy. Am a miner, Was near the school house between 5 and 6 o'clock. Was called to come home, and arrived after Roach was shot. Was in Osceola during the day in company with I heard Mrs. Miller calling to Robert ach only once. Don't know

called to Robert Roach to come and defend her. I called to Robert to go and when he came up stairs he said, "David, what does this mean?" to which Miller replied : "I will allow no man to interfere in my house," and struck Mr. Roach on the gation of the crime that he was drunk and did it in the heat of passion, and that there was no malice in the act but a deed breast. After the fight in the yard, Mr. Miller came over to Roach's bouse and told him that he had been beastly drunk but that he was sober now and could fight him fair. Miller had his gun with him and when Robert saw it he went up and got his revolver. After Miller had fired the shot he went over to his house and then went out in the road. I heard Mrs. Roach

degree.

The first witness called on the part of the detense was Mrs. Alice Miller. MRS. MILLER re-called: I did not see David Miller strike his wife on the stair on the evening of the tragedy. I did not see Miller until after he was up stairs. He was very drunk. He looked as though

of the principal points touched on was the evidence that the defendant had been exceedingly drunk on the morning of the day when the tragedy occurred. He did not attempt to deny that David Miller had shot Robert Roach, but argued in miti-

committed which, under the law, could not be interpreted as murder in the first

I heard Mrs. Miller calling to Robert to come as her husband was killing her. He was sitting on the porch and did not move until I went over and begged of him for God's sake to go and help her or he would kill her. He then got up and went over to where the fight took place. After the fight Mrs. Miller went over onto Mr. Roach's garret to hide from her husband.

CORDELIA GARDNER sworn : Live at Edendale. Defendant is an uncle of mine by marriage. Was at Mr. Miller's house on the evening of the tragedy, but left the house when he came home. I did not

WEDNESDAY MORNING. Court convened at 8:30 o'clock and the hearing of the evidence on the part of the Commonwealth was continued. MICHAEL HEFERAN sworn : Live at Evendale. Saw David Miller on the evening after the shooting. Went out to hear

what the children were crying about on the road. Miller came up to me on the road. I told him that was a bad case, He said he only shot to scare him. He said, "I am a man of nerve. I said I

took his place by the side of one of his counsel, E. R. Chambers, Esq. Court was formally opened and for a few minutes the jury hesitated in coming from the room. Budd Thompson, foreman, handed over the sealed verdict to the Court which the Prothonotary read aloud, you find David Miller "Guilty of murder in the second degree," to which all assented. The prisoner's face brightened considerably from agonizing suspense; he seemed pleased with the result. Court immediately adjourned.

DAVID MILLER.

Verdict of the Jury was Rendered Wednesday

Evening at 7:15.

David Miller, of Sandy Ridge, was on trial in the Centre county courts Tues-

day and Wednesday of this week, indicted for shooting his son-in-law, Robert

Roach, on the evening of July 21, 1902, near Sandy Ridge,'in Rush township, this

county. Wednesday afternoon the jury retired at 4:35 o'clock and after delib-

erating two hours and forty-five minutes arrived at a verdict, which was announc-

ed by the ringing of the court house bell. In five minutes the building was

thronged to the doors by an anxious throng. His Honor Judge Love soon ap-

peared, while the prisoner was ushered into the room by Sheriff Brungart, and

Second Degree"

"Murder in the

### TRAGEDY REVIEWED.

# THE TRIAL BEGUN. David Miller, the defendant, was brought

into court at nine o'clock by Deputy Sher-

iff Jackson and he seemed to be in good

spirits and took his seat between his coun-

sel, Col. Wilbur F. Reeder and E. R.

Chambers. The commonwealth is repre-

sented by, District Attorney N. B. Spangler

The detendant was indicted at August

essions for the shooting of his son-in-law

and Ex-District Attorney J. C. Meyer.

At the time of the shooting a complete account was published in this paper. In this connection we give a brief summary of the affray so as to refresh the mind as you read the following complete report of the trial.

David Miller is a man aged 62 years. Robert Roach, aged 35, was his son-in-law. They had always, so far as is known, lived peaceably together-their houses being situated on the same lot. On Monday morning, July 21, Mrs. Roach went to Osceola. Her husband went there also. During the day he drank heavily at the hotels and in the evening walked home while his wife returned in the train. He came to the house soon after Mrs. Miller's return and started to guarrel with her-following her up stairs where, it is claimed, he struck her. She called to her son-in-law, Roach, to defend her. He came to her assistance and, laying hold of the old man, downed him. When they came down into the yard the quarret was resumed, and Mr. Roach knocked or threw the old man down and then left-the old man threatening to shoot him. Miller got his guna Winchester rifle-and fired a shot in the air but not at Roach. Roach went to his house and got his revolver and started for the woods to avoid Miller. Miller went out into the road in front of his house and waited for Roach to make his appearance, which he did 125 yards up the road, whereupon Miller raised his rifle township ; challenged by defendant. and fired-sending a ball tearing through his body from the results of which he died accepted. six hours after. Miller was brought to Bellefonte by J. J. Coffee, arriving here on the 9:28 train from Tyrone the next / challenged by commonwealth. morning and landed in jail where he was confined up to this time.

ON TRIAL TUESDAY.

This case failed to attract as much ablic attention as some former murder trials in our courts for the reason that all the principal facts were known and admitted. At the top of the page we are able to print an excellent halftone portrait of the prisoner, which we were able to secure through the assistance of E. R. Chambers, and W. F. Reeder, his counsel, and by permission of Sheriff Brungart. "

Robert A. Roach, near Edendale, in Rush township on the 21 day of July A. D. 1902. The prisoner was arraigned at half past nine o'clock for murder. "What say you, guilty or not guilty ?" "Not guilty." "How shall you be tried ?" "By God and my country." Jurors sworn roir dire. George Houch called, huckster, live at Philipsburg : challenged by defendant. Daniel Spittler called, shopkeeper, live at Sandy Ridge in Rush township ; challenged by common wealth. H. W. Morris, teacher of Miles township ; challenged by the detendant. John L. Knisely, glass manufacturer of Bellefonte ; challenged by detendant. Budd Thompson, farmer of Huston town-

ship; accepted. William C. Martin, farmer of Spring

township ; accepted. Luther Wirt, farmer, Haines township

challenged by defendant. Howard Goss, farmer, Ferguson town-

ship ; accepted. William Robinson, laborer, Worth town

ship; challenged by common wealth. Nathaniel Bierly, justice, Boggs Twp.

Challenged by commonwealth. James Weaver, blacksmith, Haines

Nathan Dale, agent, Spring township

A. C. Williams, farmer Ferguson town-

ship ; accepted. Isaiab Woodle, laborer, Rush township

J. H. Meyer, farmer, Harris township challenged by defendant

J. F. Heckman, gentleman, Gregg town ship ; challenged by defendant. James Ross, Jr., farmer, Harris town-

ship; accepted. Joseph Garbrick, Jr., laborer, Bellefonte;

challenged by defendant. C. S. Bartges, laborer, Gregg township

challenged by defendant. David K. Keller, teacher, Potter town-

hip ; challenged by defendant. John P. Eaves, farmer, Halfmoon ; chal-

lenged by commonwealth. M. J. Henderson, farmer, Taylor town

ship; challenged by commonwealth. Jacob Glossner, laborer, Liberty Twp.; challenged by commonwealth. H. M. Krebs, coachmaker, Ferguson township; challenged by defendant.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Court was called at 1: 30. The prisoner appeared at his counsel's table, apparently ne the worse for his four months' confinement in the county jail. He is a stocky-built man of some sixty with gray beard and mustache. He has not the appearance of a bad man, but his receding forehead, heavy jaw and firm lips indicate a determined spirit that does not bear trifling with.

Prosecuting attorney Spangler opened the case in an address to the jury which comprehended the principal points the amonwealth intended to prove in the case, which was in substance a statement of the facts as published in this paper at the time of the tragedy.

Wilson Roach was the first witness called. Live in Osceola. Know David Miller. Robert A. Roach was my son. He was aged 35 years and 2 months at time of his death. He was married to Flora Miller, daughter of defendant, about 14 years ago. Has six children-three living. He was killed by a gunshot wound on July 21st. I saw my son lying in the road on the day of the tragedy. I talked with him, also spoke to David Miller at his house, who said, "I have shot your son Bob, and damn you, if you step in here I will shoot you My son was conscious to the last. also ' He knew he was going to die. He asked his brother and Mr. Gibson to pray for Jere Coffee brought defendant past where the wounded man lay. Miller said Bob, how do you feel ?" and he replied. 'Mr. Miller, I did not deserve this," to which Miller replied, "You are a G---d---- liar." Robert Roach, the victim,

was a coal miner and owned the property where he lived. I saw my son after 6 o'clock. When I

saw Miller I said : "What have you done, you old reprobate ?" to which he replied : "I shot Bob. and d-\_\_\_ you, I'll shoot you too if you stop in here." He was standing in his own yard. He had done nothing to me except his shooting of my son. I sent J. J. Coffee to arrest him, who had him in charge then. Don't know the exact time when shooting occurred. Robert lay in the road and was then carried into his own When he called my son a liar, I house. called him a d---d old scoundrel, but did not say I would shoot him if I had something to do it with."

FLORA ROACH, widow of Robert Roach called. Our oldest living child is nine years and youngest 7 months. My hus-band's death was caused by a shot fired by my father. Was in my kitchen when it happened. Mother went away in the morning of the tragedy. Father came home Monday morning. Father and mother had trouble when father came home. Heard a noise and went over. When I got there I saw my husband and my father in the hall up stairs. Saw my husband holding the old man down by the neck. My husband said, "I am coming home. I am not hurting the old man." When they came down stairs the old man said: "Now, Robert, you have taken advantage of an old man up stairs, now do it down here." Then they commenced to fight and fell in the grass. We then went home. While standing in the kitchen some one told Robt. the old man was going to shoot him, to which he replied that "if he can shoot I which he replied that "if he can shoot I he was talking with Mrs. Roach and Mrs. can shoot too," and got his revolver. We Gibson, and said to Mrs. Roach "I will shoot him and he went. He was out about five minutes when a shot was fired, and in

said. I did not see Mr. Miller strike his wife on the stairs. I saw that Mr. Miller was awful drunk in the morning but could not say that he was in that condition in the evening.

water."

MRS. JERRE DIXON sworn. Live at saw Miller immediately after the first shot was fired. I saw Robert Roach standing in the grove and said "My God Robert, what is this going on." He said "don't go

that way. You'll get shot." I spoke to Miller and asked him to give me the gun and fight Robert fair. "No," he replied, "I'll shoot the d-s- of a b- if I have to pierce his heart through a window." Soon the second shot was fired and I saw Robert fall. I called to him "Are you shot" and he shook his head. I then again asked him and he said, "Yes, get me some

HENRY WETZEL, SWOTD. Am a surveyor. Made draft of Roach and Miller's properties. Draft exhibited and explained, which showed that the distance between Miller and Roach was 375 feet at the time Roach was shot.

THOMAS MAHER sworn. Live at Osceola and saw David Miller standing on the township road on the evening of the tragedy, about six o'clock, resting the barrel of his gun on a stump. I said "What is the matter, David ?" He said, "I'll kill him, Bob Roach, the s-of a b-if it's six weeks rom now." He was watching in the direction of Mr. Roach. Then he exclaimed There is the s- of a b-" and called out, "Look out Bob, your going to get it," took deliberate aim and fired. Mr. Roach feel. I went up to Roach and learned that he was shot and then started for a doctor. Roach was going away from Miller when he was shot.

MAZIE HEFFERAN SWOOD : Am Mr. Miller's nearest neighbor. Heard the shooting but did not see it. Met Mr. Miller after the shooting and after seeing Mr. Roach. Miller asked me, "How is that man ?" I was crying, and said : "He's dying," to which he replied, "Let him man ?"

J. J. COFFEE sworn : Live at Osceola. Took David Miller into custody the day of the shooting, about 7 o'clock p. m. and brought him to Bellefonte the next morning via Tyrone. In leaving we passed where Roach was lying. Roach said : "You ought not to have done this," to which Miller replied, "you oughtn't to have kicked my ribs." "I didn't," replied Roach, whereupon Miller said, "You're a liar," or "a d---d liar."

WILLIAM ROACH called, but was excused on account of age-being only nine years old

JAMES DIXON sworn : Testimony unimportant.

ATRICK ROONEY sworn : Lived near Robert Roach's at time of tragedy. Heard one shot-the one that killed Roach. Went down the road and met Mr. Miller who said : "I'm going to shoot the s- of b- Bob Roach if it takes me six weeks to do it."

VALENTINE STONEBREAKER SWOTH Lived at Edendale at time of tragedy. Saw Mr. Miller about 6 o'clock in the evening.

Robert Roach in Kunkle's Hotel. Roach took two drinks of gin and a cigar. I drank two bottles of "pop" and had a cigar. Saw my father, David Miller, there and stood within three feet of him. He was too drunk to recognize me. This was about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. I did not see father again until after the shoot-Edendale, neighbor of David Miller. Was ing. While at Osceola Mr. Roach shot off at home on the day of the tragedy, and a tie at the shooting galley. He was not visibly affected by the two drinks of gin. I do not know where else my father had been that afternoon.

JERE DIXON sworn : Live in Edendale.

With this evidence the Common wealth

Chambers opened with an address to the

jury, outlining the course of defense. One

Bob had Miller down. I atterwards saw

onse but had it off when he was shot.

I did not see Mr. Dixon there at all. I

JOHN MILLER sworn : Was at Eden-

DAISY GARDNER sworn : Live at Edendale. Was at Robert Roach's, where I made my home, on day of shooting. Saw David Miller about 10 o'clock on day of tragedy. He was sitting on his back porch resting his head in his bands with the slobber running out of his mouth. He was very drunk. I saw Miller again about 6 o'clock in the evening. He was coming up the board walk from the public road and was staggering. I saw Miller and Roach fight at the corner of the wash house. Roach took his coat and hung it on his arm. When Milller came out he threw it down, Miller said, "you have taken advantage of an old man." Robert Roach said, "I can't take everything." They fought. Roach threw Miller down and hit him. After Robert started home Miller kicked Roach's coat, which he left, around in the grass. When I saw Miller coming out with the gun I ran home. Saw Roach up in the woods. He said, "If the old man crowds me too close I will shoot." The next I heard Miller call to Roach, "Look out Robert this is the time you get it." Roach replied "All right." There was great excitement. I went up on the hill to get away from the trouble and met Roach in the brushes. He asked me to go down and get his coat which I did and took it took his house. I did not see Roach again until after he was shot. fore the fight began in the yard Miller threw a stone at Roach.

GARFIELD GARDNER sworn. I was at Edendale school house in the evening of the tragedy. A number of others were with me. Left there a few minutes after 6 o'clock. Ran up the road and saw Roach lying on the road. I asked him how he felt and he said, "very bad." He did not have his revolver with him-Maude Dixon had taken it from him after he was shot.

MRS. DAVID MILLER sworn. Am the wife of the defendant. Was at home when David came home in the evening. He was terribly drunk. I was not in Roach's at-tic on day of tragedy. Was in the hall, up-stairs. I and my little girl went there. I went out because I was scared. I and my husband had just a little bit of trouble. I do not remember calling for Mr. Roach. I had come down before the shot that killed Roach was fired, but did not go to my own house until Roach was shot.

GRACE MILLER sworn : Live at Edendale. Am a daughter of defendant. Was at home on day of tragedy and saw Robert Roach shot. Saw him on top of the hill with his revolver. He said, "If Dave comes near me I'll shoot him dead." Saw father in the evening before the shooting. He was very drunk.

NATHAN MORRIELL sworn.-Live in Edendale. Was at Osceola on July 21st. Was at several hotels during the day. Saw Miller at Kunkle's hotel. Also at Washburn's hotel where he drank three glasses of whiskey. He was also drinking at

Continued on 4th page.

"May I sit by you?" asked Phyllis. Quoth I: "The pleasure's mine;" I said it after she got out, Two stations down the line Send me benignant heaven. Some speed of wit, I pray. That I may think of fit replies Upon the selfsame day ! -Portland Oregonian.

All barbers have cut-rates.

Still waters run from the distillery.

Procrastination is a word that carries wait.

For every disease there are a dozen patent medicines.

The happiest people are those who are easily flattered.

A good thing will bear repeating, provided it isn't a vote.

The office that seeks the man is generally the one in which there are no fees.

In a walking match the winner comes in ahead, and yet he comes in afoot,

Birds of a feather flock together, especially when they are jail birds.

When a man asks you for your honest opinion you sometimes have to lie to him, or lose his friendship.

All men make mistakes, but what the typewriter girl doesn't write.

Often a shoemaker's first resort is his ast.

Girls who would buy titled husbands must have legal tender hearts.

Nods of the congregation don't always express approval of the sermon.

A man is not in a calm condition when he finds it impossible to raise the wind. It's a wise clerk who laughs at the proprietor's fool jokes.

It is easy to have the patience of Job when the boils are on some other fellow. One of two things always happens regarding a habit. You either master it or it masters you.

The lady (?) who yesterday called the attention of another to our patched breeches, whereat both laughed so heartily, is informed that a new pair will be purchased when her husband's bill is settled. It has been due nearly a year. Don't criticise a printer's dress too closely while you are wearing silk with money due us. Tell your busband to send us \$40.78 and save the cost of a law suit. We need another pair of pants .-- Exchange.

## Sweet Words.

A sentimental editor out in Kausas asks, "Are there any sweeter words in the English language than 'I love you?" Perhaps not, but the words "Here's that dollar I owe you on subscription" are not lacking in delightful enunciation to the ear of a newspaperman.-Raymond (Ill.) Independent,